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Sen. Larry Pressler, R-S.D., said today he favored giving the Central Intelligence Agency power to conduct some covert activities to try to prevent further terrorist attacks on American embassies.

"I would support giving the CIA the power to kidnap terrorists and their leaders if that's what it takes," he said.

Pressler said the CIA had the authority in the early 1960s to track down, kill or otherwise detain people who killed Americans. But he said Congress later stripped the agency of the authority.

"It runs contrary to our beliefs as a nation or the normal practices but we're going to have to start doing some of the same things that they're doing to us," he said.